



Department of Justice

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, June 13, 2008
www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae
Docket #: 08-cr-0077-GEB

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STOCKTON MEN SENTENCED FOR BURGLARY OF HISTORIC HOLT POST OFFICE

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that MICHAEL DEVIN MORGAN, 26, of Stockton, Calif., and JEREMY SCOTT BEAL, 25, also of Stockton were sentenced this morning by United States District Court Judge Garland E. Burrell, Jr. for conspiracy to steal U.S. Mail and postal property from the Holt U.S. Post Office and for burglarizing the post office.

The case was investigated by the United States Postal Inspection Service and the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Michelle Rodriguez, who prosecuted the case, MORGAN and BEAL burglarized the rural, historic Holt Post Office, located at 10340 Whiskey Slough Road, Holt, Calif., in the evening and early morning hours between February 4 and 5, 2008. Two days before, MORGAN destroyed historic lobby boxes during a burglary of the post office. During the second burglary, MORGAN, BEAL, and an uncharged juvenile broke into the building by using pry bars and burglary tools to remove portions of the exterior wall. Once inside, they stole post office property, postal customer mail, U.S. Treasury checks, and Postal Money Orders. The Holt Post Office is on the site of a former Pony Express pick-up and drop-off location. The Holt Post Office, in operation since at least 1918, suffered severe damage and was closed for repair for weeks.

This morning Judge Burrell sentenced MORGAN to 41 months in federal prison for his role in the burglary, destruction, and theft. BEAL received a sentence of 30 months in federal prison. Both MORGAN and BEAL were on California state supervision for prior unrelated criminal activity when they burglarized the Holt Post Office. In addition, after completion of jail terms, each defendant will be required to serve 36 months of federal supervision. MORGAN and BEAL were ordered to pay \$7,500 as restitution and \$200 as a special assessment. They have been in custody since their guilty pleas on March 31, 2008.

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